



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 1151

S.P. 478

In Senate, March 13, 2023

An Act to Decrease Barriers for Preventive Health Services by Allowing Pharmacy Technicians to Administer Vaccines

Reference to the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services
suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D M Grant", is positioned above the printed name of the Secretary of the Senate.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator INGWERSEN of York.
Cosponsored by Representative MEYER of Eliot and
Senators: PIERCE of Cumberland, TIPPING of Penobscot, Representatives: BRENNAN of
Portland, WHITE of Waterville, ZAGER of Portland.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §13831, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2015, c. 211, §1, is further amended to read:

1. Administration of influenza vaccines. A pharmacist licensed in this State who meets the qualifications and requirements of section 13832 and rules adopted by the board may administer topically or by injection or by inhalation all forms of influenza vaccines, including intranasal influenza vaccines, to a person ~~7~~ 3 years of age or older without a prescription.

Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §13831, sub-§2, as amended by PL 2013, c. 6, §1, is further amended to read:

2. Administration of other vaccines. A pharmacist licensed in this State who meets the qualifications and requirements of section 13832 and rules adopted by the board, in addition to influenza vaccines under subsection 1, may administer vaccines licensed by the United States Food and Drug Administration that are recommended by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, or successor organization, for administration to adults to a person 18 3 years of age or older according to a valid prescription when the person has an existing primary care physician or other existing relationship with a nurse practitioner or an authorized practitioner in this State. A pharmacist may administer vaccines licensed by the United States Food and Drug Administration that are outside the guidelines recommended by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, or successor organization, to a person 18 3 years of age or older according to a valid prescription when the person has an existing primary care physician or other existing relationship with a nurse practitioner or an authorized practitioner in this State if the prescription specifically states that the vaccine is medically necessary. When the person does not have an existing relationship with a primary care physician, nurse practitioner or other practitioner in this State, the pharmacist may proceed to administer according to a treatment protocol established by an authorized practitioner or a written standing order from a practitioner authorized under the laws of this State to issue an order, a prescription or a protocol to a person 18 years of age or older for vaccines licensed by the United States Food and Drug Administration that are recommended by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, or successor organization, for administration to adults.

Sec. 3. 32 MRSA §13831, sub-§6 is enacted to read:

6. Administration of vaccines by a pharmacy technician. A pharmacy technician who holds a registration to administer vaccines issued by the board and is working under the direct supervision of a pharmacist who meets the requirements of section 13832 may administer vaccines under this section.

SUMMARY

This bill authorizes certain pharmacy technicians to administer vaccines under the supervision of a pharmacist. It changes the age of a person to whom a pharmacist may administer influenza vaccines without a prescription from a person 7 years of age or older

- 1 to a person 3 years of age or older. It authorizes a pharmacist to administer other vaccines
- 2 to a person 3 years of age or older without a prescription.